

1 (3) Members of the Board shall be appointed by the President subject
2 to the confirmation of the Senate and shall be persons with proven integrity and
3 relevant experience.

4 (4) A member of the board other than ex-officio members shall hold
5 office for a term of four years and may be reappointed for one further term of
6 four years and no more.

7 (5) The supplementary provisions contained in the schedule to this
8 Act shall have effect with respect to the tenure of office of the board members
9 and to the proceedings of the Centre.

Removal from
office

10 **3.-(1)** Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2 of this Act, a
11 member may at any time be removed from office by the President:

12 (a) for inability to discharge the functions of his office (whether
13 arising from infirmity of mind or body or any other cause);

14 (b) if he is found guilty of serious misconduct in relation to his duties;

15 (c) he becomes of unsound mind; or

16 (d) he becomes bankrupt.

17 (2) A member of the Board may resign his appointment by a notice in
18 writing under his hand, addressed to the President and the member shall, on
19 receipt of the notice by the President, cease to be a member.

Allowances

20 **4.** Members of the Board shall be paid such allowances as the
21 Revenue Mobilisation, Allocation and Fiscal Commission may from time to
22 time fix.

23 P ART II - FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE CENTRE

Functions and
powers

24 **5.** The Centre shall have the responsibility for:

25 (a) the establishment of artisan training centre in each Senatorial
26 District;

27 (b) managing and disbursing Centres for the acquisition,
28 development, upgrading and promotion of the skills and expertise of persons
29 who are either unemployed or are preparing to join the workforce either for

1 themselves or others and for poverty alleviation, as well as employment
2 generation;

3 (c) collecting all monies accruing to the Centre and ensuring that
4 such monies are paid into the account of the Centre;

5 (d) the provision of financial assistance by grants, loans or
6 otherwise for the purposes of the above mentioned objects;

7 (d) receiving requests and approving projects after due
8 consideration;

9 (e) ensuring disbursement to the relevant agencies and or
10 programmes saddled with the responsibility for Artisans Development,
11 Poverty Alleviation, as well as employment generation;

12 (f) monitoring and evaluating the execution of the projects of the
13 agencies and or programmes saddled with the responsibility for Artisans
14 Development, Poverty Alleviation, as well as employment generation,
15 Centreed with the Trust Centre;

16 (g) investing Centres in appropriate and safe securities;

17 (h) updating the Federal Government on its activities and progress
18 through annual audited reports;

19 (i) receiving progress reports and suggest improvement within the
20 provisions of this Act; and

21 (3) such other things as are necessary or incidental to the objects of
22 the Centre under this Act.

23 **6.-(1)** The Centre shall have power to do anything, which in its
24 opinion is calculated to facilitate the carrying on of its activities and in
25 particular may:

26 (a) acquire, hold, manage and dispose of any movable and
27 immovable property;

28 (b) Purchase and acquire any asset, business or property
29 considered necessary for the performance of its functions;

30 (c) train managerial, technical or other category of staff for the

1 purpose of running the affairs of the Centre; and

2 (2) The powers conferred on the Centre may be exercised by it or
3 through any of its employees or agents authorized to so act.

4 (3) Subject to this Act, the Minister of Minister charged with matters
5 relating to Labour and Productivity (in this Act referred to as "the Minister")
6 may give to the Centre directives of a general nature or specific directions
7 relating generally to a particular matter with regard to the carrying out of the
8 functions of the Centre, and it shall be the duty of the Centre to comply with
9 such directives.

10 PART III - STAFF

Appointment of
Executive
Secretary of the
Centre

11 7.-(1) There shall be appointed by the President, subject to the
12 confirmation of the Senate, an Executive Secretary for the Centre who shall
13 have appropriate qualifications to carry out the functions of the office.

14 (2) The Executive Secretary shall be the Chief Executive and
15 Accounting Officer of the Centre and shall be responsible for executing the
16 policy of the Centre and the daily administration of the Centre.

Tenure of
Executive
Secretary

17 8.-(1) The Executive Secretary shall be appointed for a term of four
18 years in the first instance and may be re-appointed for a further term of four
19 years and no more.

20 (2) The Executive Secretary shall be paid such remunerations as may
21 be specified in his letter of appointment.

Pension Reform
Act, 2004

22 9.-(1) Service in the Centre shall be approved service for the purposes
23 of the Pensions Reform Act 2004.

24 (2) Officers and employees of the Centre shall be entitled to pensions,
25 gratuities and other retirement benefits as are prescribed in the Pension Reform
26 Act 2004, so however that nothing in this Act shall prevent the appointment of a
27 person to any office on terms which preclude the grant of a pension, gratuities
28 and other retirement benefits as are prescribed under the Pensions Reform Act.

29 PART IV - FINANCIAL PROVISION

Centres

30 10. There shall be paid and credited to the Centre:

- 1 (a) not less than 0.3 % of the total annual budget;
- 2 (b) 0.5 % appropriation from tax accruing to the Federal
3 Government from Petroleum Pump Price;
- 4 (c) Loans and grants in aid from national, bilateral and multilateral
5 agencies;
- 6 (d) Rents, proceeds from services rendered by the Centre and other
7 internally generated revenues; and
- 8 (e) all other sums accruing to the Centre, from time to time.
- 9 **11.**-(1) The Centre may accept gifts of land, money or other Power to accept
gift
10 property on such terms and conditions, if any, as may be prescribed by the
11 person or organization making the gift.
- 12 (2) The Centre shall not accept any gifts if the conditions attached
13 are inconsistent with the objectives of the Centre.
- 14 **12.** The Centre may subject to the Land Use Act, acquire any land Power to acquire
land, Cap. 202,
LFN
15 for the purpose of discharging its functions.
- 16 **13.** The Centre shall prepare and submit to the National Assembly Annual Estimates
17 through the Minister not later than 30th September of each year, an estimate
18 of its expenditure and income during the next succeeding year.
- 19 **14.** The Centre shall: Accounts
- 20 (a) cause to be kept proper accounts and records of the transactions
21 of the Centre;
- 22 (b) maintain effective control over its assets and liabilities incurred
23 in the discharge of its functions; and
- 24 (c) prepare in respect of each financial year a statement of account
25 in such form as the Auditor-General may direct.
- 26 **15.**-(1) The Centre shall cause the accounts to be audited not later Audit
27 than six months after the end of each year by the Auditor-General of the
28 Federation.
- 29 (2) The Auditor-General or any officer authorized by him is
30 entitled at all reasonable times to full and free access to all accounts, records,

	1	documents and paper of the Centre relating directly or indirectly to the receipt
	2	or payment of money by the Centre or to the acquisition, receipt, custody or
	3	disposal of assets by the Centre.
Annual Reports	4	16. The Centre shall submit to the President through the Minister not
	5	later than 30th June of each financial year, a report of its activities during the
	6	proceeding year and it shall include in such report a copy of the audited
	7	accounts of the Centre for that year and a copy of the Auditor's report on it.
	8	PART V - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
Limitation of suits against the Centre Cap. 378 LFN	9	17.-(1) The provisions of the Public Officers Protection Act shall
	10	apply in respect of any suit instituted against any officer or employee of the
	11	Centre.
	12	(2) No suit shall be instituted against any member of the Board, the
	13	Executive Secretary, officer or employee of the Centre before the expiration of
	14	a period of one month after written notice of intention to commence the suit
	15	shall have been served upon the Centre by the intending plaintiff or his agent.
	16	(3) The notice referred to in subsection (2) of this section, shall state
	17	the cause of action, the particulars of claim, the name and place of abode of the
	18	intending plaintiff and the relief sought by him.
Service of Documents	19	18. A notice, summons or other documents required or authorized to
	20	be served upon the Centre under the provisions of this Act, or any other law or
	21	enactment may be served by delivering it to the Executive Secretary at the
	22	principal office of the Centre.
Restriction on execution against property of the Centre	23	19.-(1) In any action or suit, no execution or attachment of process
	24	shall be issued against the Centre without the consent of the Attorney General
	25	of the Federation.
	26	(2) Any sum of money which may by judgment of any court be
	27	awarded against the Centre shall, subject to any direction given by the court
	28	where notice of appeal of the said judgment has been given, be paid from the
	29	general reserve of the Centre.
Indemnity	30	20. A member of the Board, the Executive Secretary, any officer or

1 not less than three other members, he shall summon a meeting of the Board to
2 be held within fourteen days from the day date on which the notice is given.

3 (2) at any meeting of the Board, the Chairman shall preside but if he is
4 absent, the members present at the meeting shall appoint one of their members
5 to preside at that meeting.

6 (3) Where the Board desires to obtain the advice of any person on a
7 particular matter, the Board may co-opt such a person for a such a period as it
8 thinks fit; but a person who is attendance by virtue of this subparagraph shall
9 not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Board and shall not count towards a
10 quorum.

11 3.-(1) The Board may appoint one or more committees to carry out, on
12 behalf of the Board, such of its functions as the Board may determine.

13 (2) A Committee appointed under this paragraph shall consist of such
14 number of persons (not necessarily members of the Board) as may be
15 determined by the Board and shall not hold office on the Committee in
16 accordance with the terms of his appointment.

17 (3) A decision of a Committee of the Board shall be of no effect until it
18 is confirmed by the Board.

19 *Miscellaneous*

20 4.-(1) The fixing of the seal of the Centre shall be authenticated by the
21 signature of the Chairman, the Executive Secretary, or of any other person
22 authorized generally or specifically to act for that purpose by the Board.

23 (2) Any contract or instrument which, if made or executed by a person
24 not being a body corporate, would not be required to be under seal may be made
25 or executed on behalf of the Centre by the Chairman, Executive Secretary, or
26 any person generally or specially authorized to act for that purpose by the
27 Board.

28 (3) Any document purporting to be a document duly executed under
29 the seal of the Centre, shall be received in evidence and shall, unless and until
30 the contrary is proved, be presumed to be so executed.

1 5. The validity of any proceeding of the Board or of a Committee
2 thereof shall not be adversely affected by any vacancy in the membership of
3 the Board or Committee, or by any defect in the appointment of a member of
4 the Board, or of a Committee, or by reason that a person not entitled to do so
5 took part in the proceedings of the Board or Committee.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Bill seeks to establish a Artisans Development Centre to provide adequate centreing for the acquisition and development of skills for unemployed persons in Nigeria.